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LB 314

the entities of the state. I had a bill this year that I did bring before the Government Committee and as we took a look at it I did mention that I think that we need to have an interim study to take a look at all contracts. They agreed wholeheartedly and I think this could be even part of that interim study that we take a look at those. It also...it seems to me that the real determination is how these specific contracts are drawn up for privatization and once we take a look at that maybe we don't even need a bill. If directives could be coming forth either by the Governor or even by the department heads, I think it would solve a lot of what we're really looking for when we do issue contracts. But I do have a great concern and I agree with Senator Wehrbein that it is going to affect more than just the regional centers with mental health. I think it will affect everything. The Game and Parks was mentioned, perhaps the universities, all state buildings and the maintenance of those buildings, and so I think we really need to take a look at this before we jump in and issue a statute that would require us to, at this point in time, take a look at those contracts and then determine what that measurable savings might be. So I think the idea is certainly right, I think the timing is right that we would take a look at this during the interim and then come forth next year with a bill that can issue some directives on how these contracts might go forward. Certainly privatization is something I think we should be looking forward to if it does save taxpayers dollars, if it provides a better service for our constituents, for the citizens of the state, but I think at this point in time we should not advance this amendment. We should move 314 on to Final and I would encourage the body to do that. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Tyson, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR TYSON: Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose I'm going to withdraw this amendment and, in doing so, I want to thank everyone for the comments that have been made. This is something that will go forward next year. Those that are interested in working with myself and some other senators that have an interest in this, please let us know. Please contact and we will work together to make a good, tight bill. And at this point I would move that, with unanimous consent, the amendment be withdrawn.